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**From:** Gonzalez, Iris [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=876C423D267B417D90DD3831BA40934D-GONZALEZ, D]  
**Sent:** 11/22/2022 9:07:11 PM  
**To:** Wilson, Sherry [Wilson.Sherry@epa.gov]; Dwyer, Stacey [Dwyer.Stacey@epa.gov]; Maguire, Charles [maguire.charles@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Davis, Suea [davis.suea@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Fwd: Invite | Texas Justice40 Community Tour

Hi Sherry

Can you please advise on this request?

Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Nance, Earthea" <Nance.Earthea@epa.gov>  
**Date:** November 22, 2022 at 2:32:00 PM CST  
**To:** "Gonzalez, Iris" <Gonzalez.Iris@epa.gov>, "Dwyer, Stacey" <Dwyer.Stacey@epa.gov>, "Maguire, Charles" <maguire.charles@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Invite | Texas Justice40 Community Tour

Dear Team,

Please work with ORC and ethics to see how I should respond to this invitation, thanks.

-E

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**From:** Astrid DuBois (WE ACT) <astrid@weact.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2022 2:29 PM  
**To:** Naadiya Hutchinson (WE ACT) <naadiya.hutchinson@weact.org>  
**Cc:** Nance, Earthea <Nance.Earthea@epa.gov>; Tejada, Matthew <Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Invite | Texas Justice40 Community Tour

Dear Administrator Nance,

I wanted to bump up this request for you to join an on the ground Community-led Environmental Justice tour and Justic40 Conversation with Houston leaders and community members (including TEJAS, CoCo, and Dr. Bulldard). Please reference the invite below and let me know if there's additional details that can support this request.

Note: Austin start time is now 10 AM CT on 12/9.

Matt Tejada will be attending and is cc'd here for any coordination.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Astrid DuBois | she/ella

Legislative Coordinator

Federal Policy Office

Phone | Teléfono 646-866-8485

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On Tue, Nov 8, 2022 at 2:10 PM Naadiya Hutchinson (WE ACT) <[naadiya.hutchinson@weact.org](mailto:naadiya.hutchinson@weact.org)> wrote:

Dear Administrator Nance,

We are at a critical inflection point for the Justice40 Initiative, and environmental justice communities are eager to see the transformative potential of the Justice40 initiative realized in our communities. **We cordially invite you to participate in our first in-person Justice40rward Community Tour and Briefings in the cities of Houston and Austin, Texas.** WE ACT for Environmental Justice, in collaboration with members from the Environmental Leadership Forum, is launching regional tours as part of our Justice40rward Campaign, designed to optimize the potential of Justice40 and connect frontline, communities of color, and areas of low income directly with Agency staff and members of the Biden Administration to lay the groundwork for critical investments to come to their communities. Local and state electeds will participate as well to ensure all stakeholders are at the table.

The Houston tour is co-hosted by the Texas Environmental Justice Advisory Services (TEJAS) and the Coalition of Community Organizations (COCO). The focus of the Houston briefing would include addressing the intersection of environmental justice, housing, climate change and education. Following Hurricane Harvey, there have been a plethora of homes that have been impacted that are still in need of repair. This tour would include showcasing inequities in past Hurricane recovery, while also demonstrating a pathway forward including a vision for community education, language justice, and much more!

The Austin tour is co-hosted by PODER, a local community based environmental Justice organization. Austin is a growing city with multiple industries looking to expand and move to the city. With this expansion comes growing issues of housing affordability, air pollution, and high-quality transportation. This tour will include a look at current major sources of pollution in the community, as well as community led solutions in need of greater awareness and support.

In conversations with our community partners, we believe it will be crucial to have the Environmental Protection Agency participate in these events and are thrilled to extend the invitation to you.

Programming for **Houston starts at 3:30pm CST on Wednesday, December 7th** for a conversation on utilizing the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, and the EJ Screen. This will be followed by a 5:30pm CST presentation on updates to the EJ Screen by Dr. Robert Bullard and Matthew Tejada from the Environmental Protection Agency. Programming will reconvene on **Thursday, December 8th at 9am CST** for a toxic tour of communities in Houston. Following the toxic tour, there will be a conversation on community priorities for the Justice 40 initiative, with programming concluding by 4:30pm CST.

Programming for **Austin starts Friday December 9th at 2pm CST** for a toxic tour. We will reconvene on **Saturday, December 10th at 10am CST** for a robust conversation and a presentation on community priorities for the Justice40 Initiative. Saturday's programming will end by 1pm CST.

The overarching goal of this community tour will be to: raise awareness of Justice40 investments in the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act and Inflation Reduction Act; spotlight community advocacy and environmental justice leadership; and engage with city, county, state and federal officials to ensure IJA/IRA Justice40 investments reach communities that need them most.

Please confirm whether you will be able to attend by November 18th. If you are unable to attend, we would greatly appreciate the attendance of another Senior Official from EPA Region 6. We are happy to answer any questions you may have or schedule a call to discuss this opportunity further.

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**Texas Environmental Justice Advisory Services (T.E.J.A.S)** is dedicated to providing community members with the tools necessary to create sustainable, environmentally healthy communities by educating individuals on health concerns and implications arising from environmental pollution, empowering individuals with an understanding of applicable environmental laws and regulations and promoting their enforcement, and offering community building skills and resources for effective community action and greater public participation.

**Coalition of Community Organizations (COCO)** shares resources to address social inequities and injustices. Our climate, health, and equity work is most focused on: Supporting environmental injustice, disaster recovery, and fair housing in Houston and Harris County, Texas. This is important because Northeast Houston has impaired air and waterways, a documented cancer cluster as of 2019, and has been victimized by racial injustice in the form of gentrification, transportation pollution, flood damage from hurricanes that has not been repaired, food deserts, garbage piles, and rampant crime and drug use.

**PODER (People Organized in Defense of Earth and Her Resources)** is a women led, people of color grassroots social justice organization formed in 1991 to increase the participation of residents of East Austin in decisions related to the economic development and environmental protection of our communities. Our mission is to redefine environmental issues as social and economic justice issues, and collectively set our own agenda to address these concerns as basic human rights. We seek to empower our communities through education, advocacy and action.

**WE ACT for Environmental Justice** is a Northern Manhattan membership-based organization whose mission is to build healthy communities by ensuring that people of color and/or low-income residents participate meaningfully in the creation of sound and fair environmental health and protection policies and practices. WE ACT has offices in New York and Washington, D.C.

**The Environmental Justice Leadership Forum** is a national coalition of nearly 50 organizations in 22 states that work to ensure a diverse grassroots perspective is present in federal, state, and local policy decisions. Members are based in red, blue, and swing states including those in the Appalachia, Deep South, Extreme Northwest, Midwest, Northeast and Southwest regions and represent Black, Latinx, Indigenous and low-income White communities in large, midsize, and small cities.

Best,

**Naadiya Hutchinson, MHS** | she/ella

*Government Affairs Manager*

Federal Policy Office

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